

Multilateral  
Evaluation  
Mechanism  
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# Antigua and Barbuda

## Evaluation of Progress in Drug Control

Organization of American States – **OAS**

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission – **CICAD**

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1999  
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2000

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Organización de los Estados Americanos – OEA  
Comisión Interamericana para el Control del Abuso de Drogas – CICAD

Organization of American States – OAS  
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission – CICAD

Organização dos Estados Americanos – OEA  
Comissão Interamericana para o Controle do Abuso de Drogas – CICAD

Organisation des Etats Américains – OEA  
Commission Interaméricaine de Lutte Contre l'abus des Drogues – CICAD

## NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY

**A**ntigua and Barbuda has formulated a national drug control policy but does not have a National Anti-Drug Plan, although it states that this plan is being developed.

The Office of National Drug and Money Laundering Control Policy (ONDCP), established by Cabinet decision in 1996, coordinates the areas of prevention, demand reduction, control measures and the information center. The ONDCP budget is assigned to the Office of the Prime Minister.

Antigua and Barbuda has ratified the United Nations Conventions of 1961 and 1971. It has signed the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials. It has not signed the United Nations Convention of 1988, the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, nor the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters.

There are national laws and regulations with respect to the drug issue. Antigua and Barbuda has specific legislation governing crimes related to firearms, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, and money laundering, but does not indicate if they are in accordance with international conventions and the CICAD Model Regulations. Antigua and Barbuda has approved legislation on the control of chemical substances and pharmaceutical products and has announced the preparation of draft legislation on chemical precursors.

Antigua and Barbuda does not have an integrated system for the collection and maintenance of statistics and documents. However, in October 2000 a workshop was held with the support of CICAD's Inter-American Observatory on Drugs in order to create a basis for establishing a data system on the drug problem. Independent documents and statistics exist in various government ministries and agencies on demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures and the societal impact of illicit drugs.

## Recommendations

1. Approve and implement a National Drug Plan.
2. Incorporate an evaluation system into the National Anti-Drug Plan to analyze, monitor, and interpret information on the processes, effects, and impact of interventions in demand and supply reduction and control measures.

3. **Sign and ratify the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters; ratify the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials; and accede to the United Nations Convention of 1988.**
4. **Approve and implement laws and regulations for the control of chemical precursors.**
5. **Develop and apply an integrated system for the collection, analysis and maintenance of statistics and documents and consider support by means of international cooperation, if necessary.**

## DEMAND REDUCTION

Currently Antigua and Barbuda does not have a national demand reduction strategy. There is a limited system of prevention programs targeting key populations. These programs are in place for school children, prison officers, and out-of-school youth. Other areas are not covered. At present there are no programs dealing with drugs in the workplace.

The UN Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Plan of Action has been adopted.

Regarding treatment and rehabilitation programs, there are no minimum standards of care. There are no public treatment and rehabilitation programs.

Specialized training for professionals in drug abuse prevention and treatment is offered by the University of the West Indies (UWI). Prevalence of drug use in the general population has not been measured to date.

Although there has been no formal scientific research on prevention and drug use, there have been some surveys done in 1991 and 1992. These surveys, although not measuring the average age of first use of illicit drugs, did document that the average age for the first time consumption of alcohol is 14. The annual incidence of new drug users is unknown.

No evaluations have been conducted. There are no public treatment and rehabilitation centers, and the only existing private treatment center has not been evaluated. This is because it has not been operating long enough to carry out an appropriate evaluation.

## Recommendations

1. Approve a national demand reduction strategy based on the UN Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Demand Reduction, for purposes of systematically developing programs in this critical area.
2. Implement the Plan of Action of the UN Declaration of the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction.
3. Implement a data collection system to determine the annual incidence, prevalence, patterns of use, and types of drugs within the general population.
4. Establish regular evaluations of prevention programs.

## SUPPLY REDUCTION

**T**here is approximately one hectare planted with illicit cannabis crops in Antigua and Barbuda. As part of the country's eradication efforts, 23,556 cannabis plants were destroyed in 1999.

The Ministry of Health, through the Pharmacy Council and the Director of Pharmaceutical Services, is responsible for pharmaceuticals and controlled chemical substances. The Ministry is also responsible for the system to monitor and regulate professions involved in the distribution and use of pharmaceuticals.

Annual pharmaceutical and controlled substance use is determined from Customs import statistics and data. Annual needs are estimated on the basis of analyses of trends, using import data and demographic statistics.

There are laws and regulations in place criminalizing the diversion of controlled chemical substances. However, it is notable that there has been no report of their application in 1999. There is no provision in national laws and/or regulations for sanctions against the diversion of pharmaceuticals.

The exchange of operational information on pharmaceuticals, on the national level, is carried out by the Customs Services, the Ministry of Health, and the Police. Regional and sub-regional cooperation is effected through the Commissioners of Police in the framework of the Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police, CARICOM, and international organizations.

In 1999 the country issued no pre-export notifications for controlled chemical substances to importing countries. Antigua and Barbuda received one pre-export notification, through the INCB, to which it has not replied.

The country made no request for assistance under the provisions of international cooperation agreements regarding controlled chemical substances in 1999.

## Recommendations

1. Establish a system for receiving and replying to pre-export notifications.
2. Create specific legislation sanctioning the diversion of pharmaceuticals.

## CONTROL MEASURES

Antigua and Barbuda has judicial, administrative, and law enforcement agencies responsible for investigating, controlling, and eliminating illicit drug trafficking. Police and the Customs service are responsible for law enforcement. Judicial agencies are the courts that have jurisdiction in this area. ONDCP is responsible for the administrative action required to combat anti-drug trafficking.

ONDCP coordinates national and international information exchanges while the Royal Police Force exchanges information with the National Drug Information Centre.

In 1999, The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda seized and destroyed the following quantities of illegal drugs:

Cannabis	75.25 kg
Cannabis plants	23,384 plants
Hashish	1,000 kg
Cocaine	21.5 kg
Cannabis oil	1 ton

In 1999, 74 persons were arrested in connection with drug trafficking offenses; these persons were prosecuted, and 6 were convicted. No information is provided regarding requests for international cooperation.

Antigua and Barbuda has criminalized the manufacture and illicit trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, and has control measures in place to prevent such offenses.

There are national laws and regulations authorizing the seizure of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials, with mechanisms to control and maintain a record of their manufacture. Data are not provided on the importation, exportation and transit of these materials or on export control or interagency information exchanges, even though there is a coordinating mechanism for such information.

Antigua and Barbuda has no records of the number of persons charged for the illicit manufacture and trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and materials related to illicit drug trafficking. There have been 111 seizures of these materials, and two 12 Gauge Shotguns, one .38 caliber Revolver and one .22 caliber Rifle have been seized.

Regarding international cooperation to investigate the trafficking of firearms, ammunitions, explosives and related materials, Antigua and Barbuda states that only one known case has been recorded within the last 15 years with respect to the transshipment of firearms through Antigua.

Antigua and Barbuda has laws and regulations that criminalize money laundering. There are also laws that authorize the freezing or seizure and forfeiture of assets related to money laundering. ONDCP is the agency responsible for the processing and dissemination of information and operational collaboration between the national authorities and those of other countries.

Antigua and Barbuda has laws and regulations obliging financial institutions and other relevant institutions to report suspicious and unusual transactions to the competent authorities, and to comply with other control measures.

No one was arrested, charged, or convicted in Antigua and Barbuda for money laundering offenses during 1999. The country did not provide a response regarding the number of sanctions applied by supervisory and judicial authorities in connection with suspicious transactions or failure to fulfill requirements in relation to control measures governing money laundering. The ONDCP has investigated, and sanctioned or issued administrative warnings to 10 offshore companies, including banks. Investigations are currently under way.

Ten requests for cooperation have been made to investigate and prosecute money-laundering offenses in keeping with international instruments, and four replies have been received.

## Recommendations

1. Establish a mechanism for the management and administration of assets seized and forfeited from drug trafficking.
2. Establish mechanisms to record specific data on the number of administrative or regulatory sanctions applied by supervisory agencies to financial institutions or judicial sanctions.
3. Develop and implement a system for information exchange at national, regional and international levels.

## HUMAN, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COST OF DRUGS

Estimating human, social and economic cost of the drug problem in all of its manifestations constitutes a complex process. This information is relevant to each country's understanding of the magnitude of the drug problem. This would enable each country to appreciate the direct and indirect cost in proportion to their Gross National Product or national annual budget. Because many countries have difficulty in providing these estimates, CICAD is proposing a hemisphere-wide program involving training and technical assistance, which should assist the country in its effort in confronting the drug problem and fulfilling this indicator's requirements.

## Recommendation

1. Develop the capacity to estimate the human, social, and economic costs of the drug problem.

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

**C**ICAD recommends that Antigua and Barbuda's anti-drug efforts be strengthened by addressing the following:

1. Approve and implement a national drug plan.
2. Incorporate an evaluation system into the National Anti-Drug Plan to analyze, monitor, and interpret information on the processes, effects, and impact of interventions in demand and supply reduction and control measures.
3. Sign and ratify the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters; ratify the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials; and accede to the United Nations Convention of 1988.
4. Approve and implement laws and regulations for the control of chemical precursors.
5. Develop and apply an integrated system for the collection, analysis and maintenance of statistics and documents and consider support by means of international cooperation, if necessary.
6. Approve a national demand reduction strategy based on the UN Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Demand Reduction, for purposes of systematically developing programs in this critical area.
7. Implement the Plan of Action of the UN Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction.
8. Implement a data collection system to determine the annual incidence, prevalence, patterns of use, and types of drugs within the general population.
9. Establish regular evaluations of prevention programs.
10. Establish a system for receiving and replying to pre-export notifications.
11. Create specific legislation sanctioning the diversion of pharmaceuticals.
12. Establish a mechanism for the management and administration of assets seized



13. Establish mechanisms to record specific data on the number of administrative or regulatory sanctions applied by supervisory agencies to financial institutions or judicial sanctions.
14. Develop and implement a system for information exchange at national, regional and international levels.
15. Develop the capacity to estimate the human, social, and economic costs of the drug problem.